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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

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Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

II. Measures taken at the national and international levels regarding the prevention and suppression of international terrorism, and information on incidents caused by international terrorism

A. Information received from Member States

Russian Federation

1. On 26 July 2017, the President of the Russian Federation signed Act No. 183-FZ ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism. On 27 July 2017, the Russian Federation signed the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism which addresses the question of foreign terrorist fighters. Within the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, of which the Russian Federation is a member, a draft convention on countering extremism was negotiated and was signed at the summit of heads of State held in Astana on 9 June 2017.

2. In 2016, supervisory bodies of the Russian Federation signed memorandums of cooperation with the competent authorities of Cambodia, Egypt, South Africa and Thailand on interdepartmental cooperation in counter-terrorism. Also in 2016, the Russian Federation sent 20 extradition requests to the competent authorities of a number of States for the extradition of individuals allegedly involved in terrorism cases. It also sent 24 requests to the competent authorities of a number of States for legal assistance in criminal proceedings related to terrorism offences, of which 10 were acted upon. The Russian Federation in turn received 55 requests for legal assistance. In 2016 and 2017, the Russian Federation engaged in several activities and exercises in connection with combating terrorism with other States and organizations.

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3. On 7 July 2016, Federal Act No. 374-FZ and Federal Act No. 375-FZ were adopted, amending the Criminal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Federal Counter-Terrorism Act and certain laws, establishing additional measures to counter terrorism and protect public safety. Such amendments establish, inter alia, liability for facilitating extremist activities, for aiding and abetting terrorism, inciting terrorism online, committing crimes during armed conflict, recruiting for participation in extremism and failing to report preparations for terrorism offences. Life imprisonment is established for international terrorism; communication service providers are required to retain all records on the content of users' conversations and correspondence for three years from the moment that voice data are received, transmitted, delivered or processed; and the minimum age of criminal responsibility for the commission of a number of terrorism-related offences is set at 14. The Russian Federation continues to be actively involved in international cooperation to combat the financing of terrorism through the participation of the Russian interdepartmental commission in specialized international multilateral platforms.

4. In 2016, the number of recorded terrorism offences rose substantially to 2,227 (an increase of 44.8 per cent), 653 perpetrators were identified (an increase of 7.2 per cent), preliminary investigations were conducted into 735 offences (an increase of 27.8 per cent) and 555 criminal cases were referred to the courts (an increase of 27.3 per cent). In the first quarter of 2017, the number of recorded terrorism offences was 507 (an increase of 28.3 per cent over the previous year), of which 321 were detected by internal affairs personnel (a reduction of 30.2 per cent over the previous year) and 195 perpetrators were identified (an increase of 95 per cent over the previous year). Following cooperation between the competent authorities of the Russian Federation, a total of 26 terrorist organizations were banned.

5. Law enforcement bodies were currently monitoring 3,713 Russian citizens who left the country to join illegal armed groups. Federal and international arrest warrants had been issued for 2,061 individuals and 2,057 criminal proceedings had been initiated against 2,240 fighters. Their residential addresses were being monitored and a package of measures was being implemented to document their criminal activity. The transit routes taken by fighters were being identified and their interregional and international contacts established. The authorities had identified 112 recruiters of Russian nationals for terrorist and extremist organizations.

6. Counter-narrative efforts remained at a high level in 2016, including on the Internet. Over 79,000 posts with anti-terrorism content were disseminated and more than 37,000 online resources with banned terrorist or extremist content were blocked.